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Cultural Affairs Distinguished Lecture Series

Cultural Affairs Committee

10-2012

Franco Performer Series

Franco American Center

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CULTURAL AFFAIRS/DISTINGUISHED LECTURE SERIES

GRANT APPLICATION

PLEASE NOTE THE EMAIL ADDRESS CHANGE FOR ELECTRONIC
SUBMISSION

I. Applicant/Organization: Franco American Centre

II. a. Responsible Organization Officer: Lisa Michaud

b. Title: Communication Coordinator

c. Campus Address (include Email and Telephone): Franco American Centre

III. Summary of program requiring funding (title; featured artist(s); speaker(s); scheduled date(s):

The Franco-American Centre and Franco American Studies program are organizing a Franco American artists/performer's series on campus of four prominent Franco American artists. While on campus, the performers will interact with students and faculty; off campus community members will be invited to all events. Susan Poulin will launch the series with a book reading of her new book "Finding your Inner Moose" at the Franco American Centre on October 24, 2012 at 6pm. Josée Vachon will conclude the series with a concert at the Franco American Centre on November 3rd. The series will also include a brown bag lunch visit by Michael Parent and by traditional Franco American fiddlers and dancers from Lewiston, ME. Please see supporting documentation for a full description of each invitee.

Folded into the event will be classroom visits to FAS 101: Introduction to Franco American Studies, with several local school presentations as well (Greenville & Bingham).

IV. Budget Proposal Form must be attached.

Funding for current application is contingent upon submission of reports for any previous grant awards, including final budget and attendance figures.

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATION VIA EMAIL TO: wMADDEN@maine.edu

For questions regarding the Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series, please contact Wanda Madden at 1-1516

SUPPORTING STATEMENT

Josée Vachon:

Presents a warm, enjoyable concert for all ages, using personal anecdotes about growing up in a Québécois family and her knowledge of the history and culture of the French in America. She performs traditional and contemporary French, Québécois and Acadian folksongs, as well as her own compositions with sing-alongs, clogging, and humorous anecdotes while accompanying herself on guitar, feet and occasionally on the piano, and occasionally with the group, Chanterelle. She sings primarily in French, though often adds songs in Spanish and English to suit an audience.

The Performer:

Born in Québec and raised in Maine, Josée Vachon shares her Franco American culture through traditional and contemporary folksongs from Quebec and Acadie as well as original songs. Her warm, distinct voice accompanied by the guitar and occasional piano, unrelenting foot percussion and spoons, as well as her engaging personality have captured the hearts of many audiences throughout New England and Canada. <http://joseevachon.com/index.php>

Michael Parent:

Michael Parent is an internationally known storyteller-singer, as well as an actor and playwright. Since 1977, he has told storied in theatrical and non-theatrical settings. After living in Virginia for many years, where he was a co-founder of, and frequent performer at Live Arts, a thriving alternative theater in Charlottesville, Michael returned to his home state of Maine in 1998, and now lives in Portland. He received the National Storytelling Network's "Circle of Excellence" Award in 1999, and was keynote speaker at the 2001 National Storytelling Conference in Providence, R.I.

Michael's French-Canadian heritage is rich with songs and stories. Growing up in Lewiston, Maine, he was surrounded by family that spoke both French and English. Though he majored in English and minored in Education in college, Michael continued to speak French. After seven years as a teacher, Michael embarked on a new career as a storyteller, singer, writer and workshop leader. Oral history interviews of family and friends, combined with journeys to Quebec and France, bolstered Michael's re-affirmation of his "French connection." He created an award winning audio-tape, "Sundays at Grandma's," and a one-man show, "Grandpa's Birthday," based on stories collected from family and other members of the Franco-American community. He has co-authored, along with Julien Olivier, "Of Kings and Fools," a book which includes translated and retold stories from the Franco-American tradition (August House Publishers). <http://www.michaelparentstorytelling.com/>

Susan Poulin:

Selected by Portland Magazine as one of the “Ten Most Intriguing People in Maine,” writer/performer **Susan Poulin** has been creating and touring her original theatrical works since 1992. A graduate of the University of Southern Maine theater program, she was a featured performer in *The Mirth of Venus* and *The Mirth Canal* at the Institute of Contemporary Art in Boston, and at The Maine Festival, the Minneapolis Fringe Theater Festival and Portland, Maine’s *Cassandra Project*. Her work has been supported by the NH State Council on the Arts, the Maine Arts Commission and the Maine Humanities Council. Susan is also a popular keynote speaker, and has brought her humor and insight to presentations for groups such as Seacoast Women’s Week, the American Cancer Society (New England Division), and the Personal Historians National Conference. As her alter-ego Ida, Susan writes the popular Maine humor blog and podcast, *Just Ask Ida*. Her first book, “Finding Your Inner Moose: Ida LeClair’s Guide to Livin’ the Good Life,” will be published by Islandport Press in September, 2012.

Cindy Larock:

Cindy Larock is a master folk dancer who specializes in traditional French Canadian step dancing (la gigue) and social dancing (contre danse, quadrille, etc.). In the early days of the Traditional Arts Apprenticeship program, Cindy studied for many years with master French Canadian step dancer Benoit Bourque of Quebec. Now an accomplished dancer, Cindy is also a great cultural advocate, eager to pass these important dance traditions down to younger members of Maine’s Franco-American community. Cindy Larock is the founder of the Les Pieds Rigolants (The Giggling Feet) and actively organizes community dances in Lewiston.

From:  **Christi Renzi**

Wednesday, October 31, 2012 8:30:27 AM



Subject: Re: Fwd(2): Cultural Affairs Grant Application

To:  Lisa Michaud

Attachments:  Report.format.doc / Uploaded File (26K)

Lisa,

I am pleased to inform you that your application for a Cultural Affairs Grant has been approved! The entire sum requested of the committee for your project was approved at the Committee's meeting on October 26th. Please complete the attached report form and submit it to me either via email or by campus mail to receive your award funding. Congratulations again, and feel free to let me know if you have any questions.

Christi Renzi

Administrative Specialist

Office of the President

200 Alumni Hall

207-581-1512

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Lisa Michaud on Wednesday, October 31, 2012 at 4:44 AM -0400 wrote:

----- Original Message -----

Hello Wanda,

Thought I'd check in with you to find out if we did or did not receive our grant. Thanks!

Lisa Desjardins Michaud

Franco-American Centre Franco-Américain

University of Maine

Crossland Hall

Orono, ME 04469-5719

Web sites: Francoamericanarchives.org

francolib.francoamerican.org

Tel: (207) 581-3789

Fax: (207) 581-1455

Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Grant Report Form

Applicant Organization: Franco-American Centre

Contact Name: Lisa Michaud

Campus Address: 110 Crossland Hall

Phone: 581-3789

E-mail: Lisa.Michaud@umit.maine.edu

Summary of Program for which grant funds were awarded, including a brief description, place where the program was held; and date and time:

Book reading & signing by Franco-American Author, Actress, Susan Poulin was held at the Franco-American Centre on October 24, 2012 at 6 p.m.

Susan entertained the audience gathered at the Franco-American Centre with her quick wit and humor as she read passages from her new book, *Finding Your Inner Moose*. Although humorous, there are life lessons to be learned from a moose, which Ida shares. The characters from her book are real people who played a role in shaping Susan's life experiences.

After the event Susan answered questions and signed and sold many of her books.

How many people attended the event(s)? If possible describe the different audiences that this program served (i.e. UMaine Students, general community, teachers, etc.).

42 people attended the book reading and signing. The audience consisted of both campus and surrounding communities. From students, to teachers, and others of all ages.

How was the event promoted? Please attach copies of promotional material.

There was printed posters made up. Email and Bangor Daily News. Radio.

Please describe any modifications to program or budget made after award:

Please attach a final budget, an Adjusting Entry form listing expenses, and GL printouts showing expenses to this form.



Find Your Inner Moose!

Wondering how to live the good life? Well, it turns out, you can really learn a lot about that from a moose. And Ida LeClair, Ida (and Susan Poulin, author of "Finding Your Inner Moose") draws upon her personal experiences and those of the majestic moose to offer down-to-earth, commonsensical advice in her hilarious new self-help book (seriously, it's wicked funny!). Come say Hi!

MEET SUSAN POULIN

What: Book Reading & Signing

Where: Franco-American Centre
Crossland Hall,
University of Maine, Orono

When: 6 p.m., October 24, 2012

Contact: Susan Pinette
207 581 3791
spinette@maine.edu



Co-Sponsored by Franco American Programs, Chez Nous (Royal Arcanum formerly known as ACA)
and by a Cultural Affairs Committee Grant

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Cultural Affairs/Distinguished Lecture Series Grant Report Form

Applicant Organization: Franco-American Centre

Contact Name: Lisa Michaud

Campus Address: 110 Crossland Hall

Phone: 581-3789

E-mail: Lisa.Michaud@umit.maine.edu

Summary of Program for which grant funds were awarded, including a brief description, place where the program was held; and date and time:

Josée Vachon, well known among the Franco-American Community performed to a full house at the Franco-American Centre, on Saturday, Nov. 3rd at 2:00 p.m. Josée performed traditional and contemporary folksongs from Québec and Acadia and some of her own compositions. There was an excellent interaction with the audience who chorused in on many of her songs. It was a very heart-warming enjoyable concert.

How many people attended the event(s)? If possible describe the different audiences that this program served (i.e. UMaine Students, general community, teachers, etc.).

There were 54 members in the audience which consisted of all ages..from 5 to 85! Both UMaine community, students and surrounding communities..from as far as Allagash! Some of the feedback – Fromidable!, Wonderful, Heart Warming!, Excellent!, Bravo!

How was the event promoted? Please attach copies of promotional material.

The Event was promoted via email to our list and via mailings. (See attached flyer).

Please describe any modifications to program or budget made after award:

No modifications.

Please attach a final budget, an Adjusting Entry form listing expenses, and GL printouts showing expenses to this form.

Josée Vachon



Born in Québec and raised in Maine, Josée Vachon has been sharing her Franco-American upbringing for over 25 years through traditional and contemporary folksongs from Québec and Acadia and through her own compositions.

**Join us at 2:00 p.m.
on Saturday Nov.3, 2012**

**At the
Franco-American Centre Franco-Américain
University of Maine
Crossland Hall**

**(Across from the Alford Arena)
Chicken Stew & Ployes will be served after
Contact: Lisa Michaud, 581-3789
or email: Lisa.Michaud@umit.maine.edu**

**Sponsored by: Franco-American Centre, Chez-Nous (Royal Arcanum formerly known as ACA) and
by Cultural Affairs Committee Grant**